

From: Thiele, Aaron
To: [Thiele, Aaron](#)
Cc: Cameron, Scott; Daniel Jorjani; David Mihalic; Domenech, Douglas; Gavin Clarkson; Greg Sheehan; Gregory Sheehan; James Cason; Katharine Macgregor; Laura Rigas; Lori Mashburn; Micah Chambers; Rusty Roddy; Scott Angelle; Scott Hommel; Vincent Devito; Willens, Todd; Elinor Renner; Downey Magallanes; Andrea Travnicek; Timothy Williams; William Dove
Subject: Re: Bi-Weekly Meeting Reminder
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 8:35:33 AM
Attachments: [Bi-Weekly Briefing 8-30-17.pptx](#)

Attached are the final slides for the briefing this morning.

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 9:19 AM, Thiele, Aaron <aaron_thiele@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Just a reminder that slides are due today by noon.

On Fri, Aug 25, 2017 at 4:02 PM, Boulton, Caroline <caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hello all,

This is a reminder that the next Bi-Weekly Briefing will be this coming Wednesday, August 30. It will be at 9:30-11:00 in the 5160 conference room.

Slides are due to Aaron by noon on Tuesday the 29th.

Best,
Caroline

--

Caroline Boulton
Department of the Interior
Scheduling & Advance
Caroline_Boulton@ios.doi.gov | Scheduling@ios.doi.gov



Bi-Weekly Policy Briefing for Secretary Zinke

August 30, 2017



Agenda

1. Fish and Wildlife and Parks
2. Water and Science
3. Policy, Management, and Budget
4. Land and Minerals Management
5. Insular Areas
6. Indian Affairs
7. Congressional and Legislative Affairs
8. External Affairs/Intergovernmental
9. Solicitor
10. Communications
11. White House Liaison
12. Scheduling and Advance
13. Office of the Secretary



Fish and Wildlife and Parks



Fish and Wildlife and Parks



Current Operations

Hurricane Harvey update

FWS

- Wildlife Hunting and Heritage Council teleconference, August 30
- Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on certain Indian reservations, tribal bag limits, use of electronic call, August 31
- Release of 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, September 5
- Migratory Bird Conservation Commission and FY2018 North American Conservation Act Grants, September 6 meeting
- August is National Sports Shooting Month

NPS

- North Shore Road and Swain County, North Carolina, \$4 million payment
- Release of Great Smoky Mountains National Park fire report, August 31



Fish and Wildlife and Parks



30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

FWS

- National Sportsmen's Day, September 23
- Expansion of hunting and fishing opportunities at 10 national wildlife refuges, Secretarial event
- *Federal Register* notice stating import permits can be issued for African elephant trophy animals taken in Zimbabwe on or after January 21, 2016, through 2017, September
- Authorization of imports of wild and wild-managed lions from South Africa taken in 2017-2019, September
- National Wildlife Refuge Week, October 8-14, 2017

NPS

- U.S. Semiquincentennial (250th) Anniversary Commission establishment, September
- Sexual harassment survey results, September
- Yellowstone bison transfer to Fort Peck



Fish and Wildlife and Parks



Major Events and Travel

- Acting Assistant Secretary Todd Willens
 - Personal leave, August 31 and September 1
- FWS Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan
 - Personal leave, September 8
- Acting NPS Director Mike Reynolds
 - Travel to New York City to meet with families of firefighters and WTC victims regarding the unidentified remains from World Trade Center, September 5



Water and Science



Water and Science

Current Operations

Bureau of Reclamation

- Shasta Dam-Notice to Reopen Public Comment Period-requests from Winnemem Wintu Tribe
- Reclamation public summary of responses and themes from P3 Investor Day (May 9)
- Salton Sea-Quantification Settlement Agreement-CA State Water Resources Board-Sept. 7
- WaterSMART Water and Efficiency Grants will be announced-\$20.9 million

U.S. Geological Survey

- Hurricane Harvey Response: Storm surge sensors, high water mark flagging and surveying
- USGS announce paper on climate, wildfire, and erosion in Western US
- Critical Minerals Report and Executive Order



Water and Science

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

Bureau of Reclamation

- Navajo Generating Station Stakeholder meeting September 6, possibly follow up Sept. 21
- Minute 323 – U.S. Mexico Cooperation Colorado River late September
- NOI to prepare Draft EIS and Scoping meetings for Reinitiation of Consultation on coordinated Long Term Operation of Central Valley Project and State Project

U.S. Geological Survey

- USGS release new Scientific Investigation Report
 - Three-dimensional hydrogeologic framework model constructed for Rio Grande
 - Transboundary region of New Mexico, Texas, northern Chihuahua, Mexico
- Sept 6-21 USGS will conduct paleoseismic investigation of the Teton Fault near Jackson Hole Mountain Resort to understand large earthquakes
 - Fault cuts across Grand Teton National Park and lies close to Reclamation's Jackson Lake Dam



Water and Science

Major Events and Travel

Bureau of Reclamation

- September 11-13 Federal Columbia River Power System Meetings with CEQ/OMB/Hill
- Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group, Phoenix Sept. 20-21
- Navajo Generating Station Stakeholder meeting, Sept. 21, Flagstaff, AZ
- September 27-29 Colorado River Symposium, Santa Fe

U.S. Geological Survey

- National Academies Meeting on Energy Resources Program, Sept. 5
- National Geospatial Advisory Committee Meeting, Sept. 6
- USGS Coalition Reception on Capitol Hill, Sept. 12
- Alaska Mapping Executive Committee Meeting, Oct. 26, Anchorage



Policy, Management and Budget



Policy, Management and Budget

Current Operations

- Government Performance and Results Act revised strategic plan for DOI
 - Draft plan to OMB on September 11, after Deputy Secretary review
 - Final plan due 1/20/18
 - Implications for SES performance standards
 - Needs to be coordinated with reorganization plan also due September 11
- FY 2019 President's Budget
 - (b) (5) DPP
 - [Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
- Hurricane Harvey response
 - DOI responding to FEMA direction
 - No employee loss of life
 - Damage to DOI facilities not severe, as far as we can tell right now



Policy, Management and Budget

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- Grants management
 - Avoiding conflict of interest between grantee/DOI employee
 - Implications of litigation status with prospective/current grantee
 - Focusing grants in support of Secretarial Top 10
- DOI reorganization for the next 100 years
 - Synchronize with budget submission to OMB on 9/11
 - Synchronize with GPRA strategic plan draft to OMB on 9/11
 - Need to settle on the standard regions
 - Advice from LTG. Tom Spoehrs (ret.) at Heritage on Joint Management
 - Phasing and project plan for implementation of reorganization in FY18, FY19



Policy, Management and Budget

Major Events and Travel

- FYI: Federal interagency UAS Executive Committee, meeting in Washington DC week of 9/11-15
- National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, New Orleans, 9/14 (in coordination with USDA)
- Partnership for Public Service's Annual Service to America awards, 9/17, Washington DC
- National Association of State Foresters, Charleston WV, 9/19, (in coordination with USDA/FS)
- Navajo Generating Station Stakeholder meeting, Flagstaff AZ, 9/21 (in coordination with Water and Science, Indian Affairs)
- FYI: Royalty Policy Committee first meeting tentatively during week of October 4



Land and Minerals Management



Land and Minerals Management

Current Operations

BSEE

- **BSEE offices closed as a result of Hurricane Harvey**
 - Texas: Angleton/Lake Jackson/Houston ETAC
 - Louisiana: Lake Charles/Lafayette/Houma
- **Harvey Operational Impacts**
 - Industry personnel evacuated from 98 of 737 (13.3%) manned production platforms
 - Industry personnel evacuated from 5 of 10 (50%) non-Dynamic Positioning (DP) rigs
 - All 21 DP rigs remain operational
 - 18.94% of daily production of oil (331,370 barrels) is shut-in
 - 18.12% of the daily production of gas (583.39 million cubic feet) is shut-in

OSMRE

- **National Academies of Science Study: Human Health Impacts of Coal Mining in Appalachia**
 - We have paused this study as part of our review on grants and cooperative agreements.
- **State and Federal Coal Regulatory Summit**
September 19th-20th, 2017 in Main Interior's South Penthouse



Land and Minerals Management

Current Operations (Continued)

BOEM

- **Gulf Sale 249:**
 - On August 16 the region-wide Gulf of Mexico lease sale generated \$121,143,055 in high bids for 90 tracts covering 508,096 acres in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. A total of 27 companies participated in the sale, submitting 99 bids totaling \$137,006,181.
- **New Five Year Program:**
 - BOEM published the Request for Information, which began the public process for developing a new Five Year Program, in the Federal Register on July 3. The comment period closed on Aug. 17. As of Aug. 22, BOEM had received approximately 815,000 comments. BOEM has been holding virtual meetings on the development process and outreach continues with the states.

BLM

- BLM support for Hurricane Harvey
 - BLM is supporting efforts via: Incident Management Team, UAS pilots(3), 2 aviation managers (2), scientists and rangers
- Energy Independence
- Sage Grouse Report and Next Steps



Land and Minerals Management

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

BSEE

- **BSEE Regulatory Reform**
 - Conduct Well Control Rule Forum in Houston, TX on September 21. Rescheduled from September 7 because of storm damage; the purpose is to obtain input from stakeholders
 - Initiate rulemaking process for Production Safety Systems Rule

OSMRE

- **Restoring regulatory certainty:**
 - Clean Water Act Memorandum
 - Federal inspection frequencies



Land and Minerals Management

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook (Continued)

BOEM

- **Cape Wind:**
 - In response to the DC Circuit Court's remand order, BOEM prepared a supplement to the 2009 Final EIS. The Final Supplemental EIS and associated NOA published on Aug. 4. The Record of Decision needs to be published by Sept. 15 to meet the schedule DOJ has submitted to the Court. Separately, on June 22, 2017, CWA submitted a second request for a 2-year lease term and rent payment suspension. On July 24, 2017, CWA's approved lease suspension expired. BOEM is reviewing CWA's request for a second suspension.
- **Hill Briefing**
 - BOEM has scheduled a Hill staff briefing on Development of the Five Year Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program for Sept. 12. Topics will include the steps required for program development and the related NEPA analysis.

BLM

- Planning and NEPA Streamlining
- Coal Review
- Proposed Waste Prevention Rule – Out for Public Comment



Land and Minerals Management

Major Events and Travel

- Kate MacGregor, Acting ASLM:
 - On leave until September 4
 - Will speak at the 2017 Annual Nevada Mining Association Convention in Lake Tahoe on September 9
- Director Angelle will be in the Gulf of Mexico Region September 17-24 to:
 - Speak at a Society of Petroleum Engineers meeting in Lafayette, LA (September 18)
 - Speak at a Louisiana Oil and Gas Association meeting in Lafayette, LA (September 19)
 - Speak at a Center for Offshore Safety meeting in Houston, TX (September 20)
 - Deliver opening address at Well Control Rule Forum in Houston, TX (September 21)
 - Meet with Executives from Walter Oil in Houston, TX (September 21)
 - Conduct Stakeholder meetings in Houston, TX (September 22)



Insular Areas



Insular Areas

Current Operations

August 29, 2017 (Honolulu) – Acting AS-IN Pula will chair the *Joint Economic Management and Financial Accountability Committee* (JEMFAC) in which the approximately \$112 million in Compact of Free Association moneys for fiscal year 2018 will be allocated for the FSM. Infrastructure completion and accreditation of schools will also be major topics for discussion.

August 29, 2017 (Honolulu) – Acting AS-IN Pula will meet with RMI Ambassador Zackios regarding the Pacific Islands trust fund meeting In Tuvalu.

August 29, 2017 (Washington DC) – Representatives of OIA and the Department of Treasury will meet to discuss insular financial stresses and solutions.

August 30, 2017 (Honolulu) – Acting AS-IN Pula will chair the *Joint Economic Management Committee* (JEMCO) in which the approximately \$77 million in Compact of Free Association moneys for fiscal year 2018 will be allocated for the Marshall Islands. Accreditation of schools will also be discussed.



Insular Areas

Current Operations

August 31, 2017 (Honolulu) – Trust Fund Chairman Nikolao Pula will attend (along with U.S. and FSM and RMI trust fund board members) and educational meeting for further familiarization with terms and glide paths relating to the trust funds.

September 1, 2017 (Honolulu) – Trust Fund Chairman Nikolao Pula will chair the actual trust fund meetings of:

- [The FSM Trust Fund Committee](#), where two new Trust Fund Committee members from the Federated States of Micronesia will be introduced, and financial actions taken based advice of the investment adviser. The trust fund is currently approximately \$500 million.
- [The RMI Trust Fund Committee](#), where Vanguard will replace Mercer as the trust fund adviser and financial actions taken based advice of the investment adviser. The trust fund is currently approximately \$300 million.



Insular Areas

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

September 2017 - Requests for Meetings with Secretary Zinke:

- President Hilda Heine of the Republic of the Marshall Islands for sometime between September 12 and 17, and
- President Peter Christian of the Federated States of Micronesia for sometime between September 23 and 28.



Insular Areas

Major Events and Travel

September 5 through 7, 2017 – Samoa (the sovereign country) will host the annual meeting of the Pacific Islands Forum.

CANCELLED by the National Invasive Species Council:

- **September 26 – 28, 2017** – the Second U.S. Territories Invasive Species Coordinating Committee meeting in Washington, D.C.



Indian Affairs



Indian Affairs

Current Operations

- **Relocation from South Interior**
- **Navajo Generating Station**
- **Trade and Commerce Regulations**
 1. Ongoing Macroeconomic Data Collection
 2. Consultation Process possibly extended
 3. White House Tribal Finance Roundtable follow-up
 - a. CFPB is suing tribes, possible DOJ meeting
 - b. New Market Tax Credits research
 - c. Other items
 - 1) Accredited Investor Status for Tribes
 - 2) Securities Registration Exemption for Tribal Municipal Bonds
 - 3) Tax Code issues (Bonds, Sub S, and §17s)
 - **Update of Land into Trust Regulations**
 - **Development of Telework Management Policies**



Indian Affairs

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- Complete Data Collection Consultation on Trade and Commerce
- Strategic Planning
 - Processes
 - Measures
 - APG
 - (b) (5) DPP



Indian Affairs

Major Events and Travel

- Keynote Addresses / Presentations
 - National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (9/5)
 - National Intertribal Tax Alliance (9/12)
 - Indian Gaming mid-year (9/20)
 - Native American Finance Officers Association (10/3)
 - Global Gaming Expo (10/5)
- North American Energy Standards Board (9/6)
- Canadian Embassy Event (9/7)



Congressional and Legislative Affairs



Congressional Affairs

Current Operations

- Congressional August Recess through September 5, 2017
- Nominees
 - Burman, Domenech & Combs – Marked Up and awaiting floor vote
 - Nelson (Solicitor) & Balash (ASLM) – Hearing will be September 7, 2017
 - Invite letters for Ryan Nelson going to the Hill 8/30/17
- FY18 Budget QFR Approvals
- White River Bridge
- Jupiter Inlet



Congressional Affairs

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

Hearings

- (9/7) Rescheduled: Cutting Through the Red Tape: Oversight of Federal Infrastructure Permitting and the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council
 - Gary Frazer, Assistant Director for Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, HSGAC
- (9/13) Hearing to discuss progress made in implementing recommendations related to Indian Programs as identified in the 2017 GAO High Risk List Report. This is a follow up from the May 2017 hearing on the same subject.
 - Witness: TBD
 - Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
- (9/27) Hearing on Encouraging the Next Generation to Visit National Parks
 - Witness: TBD
 - SENR

Legislative Agenda

- Eastern Gulf of Mexico/NDAA – Sen. Nelson
- Interior Appropriations Amendment Floor Schedule & Outlook
- Maintenance Backlog Fund Language



Congressional Affairs

Major Events and Travel

- Congressional Meetings for Secretary Zinke
 - Majority/Minority meetings with HNRC as promised in hearing
 - Louisiana Coastal Tour – Sen. Cassidy
 - Everglades Tour – Sen. Rubio
- Congressional Meetings for Dep. Sec. Bernhardt
 - Chairman Bishop
 - Western Caucus
 - Chairman Calvert



External and Intergovernmental Affairs



Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs

Current Operations

- BP America
- Wild Horse & Burro Summit
- Wyoming BLM
- Walk For Life
- Bear River Wildlife Refuge



Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- Continued outreach within the Sportsmen's community (*Utilizing our Natural Resources*)
- Strengthen Governor and Department cooperation (*Striking a regulatory balance*)
- Outreach within the Wild Horse & Burro Community (*Creating a stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt*)
- Outreach to the States Wildlife Agencies (*Modernizing our infrastructure*)
- Outreach to local governments (*Restoring trust within local communities*)
- Outreach to Industry (*Striking a regulatory balance*)



Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs

Major Events and Travel

- Possible Wild Horse and Burro Summit
- National Fishing & Hunting Day

Travel

- TBD



Solicitor



Office of the Solicitor

Current Operations

- [REDACTED] (b) (5) ACP [REDACTED]



Office of the Solicitor

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

• (b) (5) ACP



Office of the Solicitor

Major Events and Travel

- NO TRAVEL BY POLITICALS



Communications



Office of Communications

Current Operations

- Aug. 25 – editing Secretary video on his vision for reorg to be sent to all employees.
- Aug. 25 – Ongoing - Hurricane Harvey Communications Coordination with IOC, FEMA, and WH, Sec. appearances on Fox & Friends, Varney & Co. , posting updates on Doi.gov/emergency and Bureaus (USGS, BSEE, FWS) posting on social media.
- Aug. 28 – National Shooting Sports Month Proclamation and Secretary Statement sent to sportsmen & stakeholders
- Aug. 29 – Secretary op-ed on Monument Review – with WH for approval. Waiting on WH for further roll-out options.
- Aug 30 – Secretary all-employee DOI message on DOI involvement in Hurricane Harvey/National Preparedness Month
- Aug. 31 – Secretary Participating in Great Smoky Mountain Chimney Tops Fire Report Press Conference
- Sept. 5 – DOI/FWS – Announcing 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, & Wildlife Associated Recreation prelim report (press release, op-ed)



Office of Communications

30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- Themes: hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation that drive home our Conservation Stewardship message
- Refine strategic comms plan around the policy priorities, ensuring all are aligned with our Top 10 priorities
- Establish Communications rollout for Re-org.
- Working with WH on Critical Minerals report comms rollout.
- Echoing and amplifying White House Tax Reform message.



White House Liaison



White House Liaison

Personnel:

- Schedule C
 - 31 of 68 onboard
 - 4 in process
- SES
 - 19 of 44 onboard
 - 2 starting
 - 7 in process
- PAS
 - 5 of 17 Announced
 - 15 of 17 Submitted



Scheduling and Advance



Scheduling and Advance

In Town Events:

- USGS Tour & All Hands Meeting (8/31)
- Lunch with Secretary James Mattis (9/1)
- Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation Annual Banquet Remarks (9/13)

Upcoming Trips for September / October

- Texas (9/2)
 - Potential Travel with POTUS to Hurricane Harvey Relief Areas in TBD, TX
- Maryland (9/9-9/10)
 - White House Cabinet Meeting at Camp David, MD
- Pennsylvania (9/10)
 - Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA
- New York (9/11-9/12)
 - Press & Tours in New York City, NY

- Missouri (9/20-9/21)
 - Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium Grand Opening Events in Springfield, MO
- Texas (9/21-9/22)
 - NRA Women's Leadership Events in Dallas, TX
- New Jersey / Pennsylvania (9/27-9/29)
 - Visits to Gateway National Recreation Area, NJ; Philadelphia, PA; & Valley Forge, PA
- Georgia / Florida (10/2-10/10)
 - Events in Atlanta, GA & Florida Everglades
- Arizona / Texas (10/12-10/16)
 - National Park Foundation Board Meeting at the Grand Canyon, AZ; Visit to Navajo Generating Station, AZ; Border Tour at Big Bend National Park, TX
- New York
 - Hunting Events in TBD Upstate, NY



Office of the Secretary



Office of the Secretary

Key Executive Orders

- EO 13771: Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs (Jan 30)
 - Reduced planned regulations in Unified Agenda by 50%
 - Fall 2017 Draft Unified Agenda due September 5, Final September 18
- EO 13777 Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda (Feb 24)
 - Established Regulatory Reform Task Force
 - Incorporation into GPRA (government annual performance plan)
- EO 13781: Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch (Mar 13)
 - Reorganization plan submitted to OMB by September 9
- EO 13783: Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth (Mar 28)
 - Draft Energy Burdens Report Submitted July 26
 - Final Energy Burdens Report due September 24



Office of the Secretary

Key Executive Orders

- EO 13792: Review of Designations Under the Antiquities Act (Apr 26)
 - Draft Report submitted August 23
 - Specific recommendations in progress
 - POTUS target travel for the Fall
 - DOI management plans review
- EO 13795: Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy (Apr 28)
 - 5 year plan RFI in July 2017
 - Submitted energy data to Commerce for Marine Sanctuary Review
 - Regulatory burdens review in progress
- EO 13807: Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure (Aug 15)
 - Secretarial Order on NEPA Streamlining signed by Dep Sec
 - Energy Corridors on Federal Lands
 - Interior to submit Reorg plan to OMB
- Upcoming Executive Orders
 - Reorganization EO
 - Critical Minerals EO